

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LISBON 08365 031906Z

14
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

/062 W
----- 115146

R 031725Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9407
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL OPORTO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
/AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA 2026
USMISSION NATO
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 8365

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, PO,
SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS: REPORT ON MILITARY ABUSES RELEASED

REF: LISBON 8228 (DTG 261828Z NOV 76)

SUMMARY: THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION INVESTIGATING HUMAN
RIGHTS ABUSES COMMITTED AGAINST THOSE HELD BY MILITARY
AUTHORITIES DURING THE GONCALVIST PERIOD PUTS THE FINGER
SQUARELY ON THE COMMUNISTS AND THE ULTRA-LEFT UDP. RELEASE
OF THE REPORT UNDERSCORES PRESIDENT EANES NOV 25 PLEDGE TO
RID THE ARMED FORCES OF THOSE WHO SERVE PARTISAN INTERESTS.
END SUMMARY.
(BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED)

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LISBON 08365 031906Z

1. THE COMMISSION NAMED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR TO

INVESTIGATE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF THOSE HELD BY
MILITARY AUTHORITIES DURING THE 1974-1975 GONCALVIST PERIOD
MADE PUBLIC ITS REPORT ON DEC 2. HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED:

-- MOST ILLEGAL ARRESTS WERE MADE BY THE
CONTINENTAL ARMY COMMAND (COPCON), OFTEN USING BLANK ARREST
ORDERS WHICH DID NOT SPECIFY THE CHARGES BEING BROUGHT
AGAINST THE ACCUSED.
-- SOME OF THE HUNDREDS OF ARBITRARY ARRESTS WERE BASED UPON
ANONYMOUS DENUNCIATIONS; OTHERS ON INFORMATION PROVIDED BY
PARTISAN ORGANIZATIONS (READ PCP). MANY RESULTED FROM VERBAL
REQUESTS FROM THE OFFICE OF THEN PRIME MINISTER GONCALVES,
THE LABOR MINISTRY, THE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE SDCI,
OR THE OFFICE OF ADM ROSA COUTINHO.
-- CASES OF MENTAL AND PHYSICAL TORTURE WERE VERIFIED; BOTH
MILITARY MEN AND CIVILIANS WERE IMPLICATED.
-- THE GREATEST EXCESSES WERE COMMITTED AT THE LISBON
GARRISONS OF THE LIGHT ARTILLERY REGIMENT (RALIS) AND THE
MILITARY POLICE.
-- CIVILIANS, AT TIMES ARMED AND BELONGING TO PARTISAN
ORGANIZATIONS (PCP AND UDP), OFTEN PARTICIPATED IN THE
ARRESTS.

TEXT OF THE REPORT WILL BE POUCED.

2. EANES KEEPS HIS WORD: THE PRESIDENCY SIMULTANEOUSLY
ISSUED A STATEMENT CALLING FOR IMMEDIATE PROSECUTION OF
THOSE IMPLICATED BY THE REPORT. THE STATEMENT NOTED THAT THE
ABUSES SHOULD GIVE THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE CAUSE TO REFLECT
ON THE DANGERS IMPLICIT IN TOTALITARIAN CONDUCT.

3. COMMENT: (BEGIN LOU) THE REPORT WAS SUBMITTED TO
PRESIDENT EANES IN MID-AUGUST. ITS RELEASE AT THIS TIME
CARRIES SEVERAL MESSAGES:
-- IT UNDERSCORES THE NOV 25 PLEDGE BY PRESIDENT EANES
TO FORCE OUT OF THE ARMED FORCES THOSE MILITARY MEN WHO
SERVE PARTISAN INTERESTS (REFTEL).
-- BY GIVING THE APPEARANCE OF MOTION, IT MAY SERVE TO TAKE
SOME OF THE HEAT OFF AUTHORITIES WHO HAVE COME UNDER
INCREASING FIRE FOR ALLEGED INACTION IN THE FACE OF
CONTINUED TERRORISM.
-- IT PUTS THE FINGER SQUARELY ON BOTH THE COMMUNISTS AND THE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LISBON 08365 031906Z

UDP-LED "POPULAR POWER" FORCES AS PRIME MOVERS BEHIND THE
CATALOG OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. WITH LOCAL ELECTIONS
LESS THAN TEN DAYS AWAY, THE REPORT IS A POINTED REMINDER OF
THE DANGERS POSED BY BOTH THESE NON-DEMOCRATIC PARTIES.
CARLUCCI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, HUMAN RIGHTS, MILITARY PERSONNEL, INVESTIGATIONS, COMMUNISTS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LISBON08365
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760449-0257
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761276/aaaacnhq.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LISBON 8228
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 OCT 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 OCT 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <06 JAN 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUMAN RIGHTS: REPORT ON MILITARY ABUSES RELEASED
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006